

Applicant: Smith et al.  
For: A LAUNCHER PLATFORM

1           1.     A launcher platform comprising:  
2                     a support structure; and  
3                     a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for  
4                     supporting missiles thereon,  
5                     each adjacent rail elevated above the other rails to accommodate  
6                     additional missiles and different type missiles while maintaining a low  
7                     center of gravity.

1           2.     The launcher platform of claim 1 in which there are six rails total, three  
2                     on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated  
3                     above the other rails.

1           3.     The launcher platform of claim 1 in which there are N total rails where N  
2                     is an even number,  $N/2$  rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of  
3                     the rails are elevated.

1           4.     The launcher platform of claim 1 in which adjacent rails are offset from  
2                     the other rails.

1           5.     The launcher platform of claim 4 in which the offset rails are offset  
2                     rearwardly from the other rails.

1           6.     The launcher platform of claim 4 in which the elevated rails are offset

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2 from the other rails.

1 7. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which there are six rails total, three  
2 on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated  
3 above and offset rearwardly from the other rails.

1 8. The launcher platform of claim 4 in which there are N rails total where N  
2 is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of  
3 the rails are offset from the other rails.

1 9. The launcher platform of claim 1 in which the support structure is a  
2 monolithic platform.

1 10. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the monolithic platform  
2 includes a set of mounting pads for each rail.

1 11. The launcher platform of claim 10 in which the mounting pads are cast  
2 as a part of the platform.

1 12. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform has a  
2 predetermined width and a predefined length.

1 13. The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform is made of  
2 aluminum.

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1           14.     The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform is made of a  
2     composite material.

1           15.     The launcher platform of claim 9 in which the platform has a center line  
2     and the rails are symmetrically arranged with respect to the center line of the platform.

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1           16.    A launcher platform comprising:  
2                       a support structure; and  
3                       a plurality of rails mounted on the support structure for  
4                       supporting missiles thereon,  
5                       each adjacent rail elevated above and offset rearwardly from the other  
6                       rails to accommodate additional missiles and different type missiles while  
7                       maintaining a low center of gravity.

1           17.    The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are six rails total, three  
2                       on each side of the support structure, and the intermediate rails on each side are elevated  
3                       above the other rails.

1           18.    The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are N rails total where  
2                       N is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of  
3                       the rails are elevated.

1           19.    The launcher platform of claim 16 in which there are N rails total where  
2                       N is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure and the minority of  
3                       the rails are offset rearwardly from the other rails.

1           20.    The launcher platform of claim 16 in which the support structure is a  
2                       monolithic platform.

1           21.    The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the monolithic platform  
2                       includes a set of mounting pads for each rail.

1 22. The launcher platform of claim 21 in which the mounting pads are cast  
2 as a part of the platform.

1 23. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform has a  
2 predetermined width and a predefined length.

1 24. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform is made of  
2 aluminum.

1 25. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform is made of a  
2 composite material.

1 26. The launcher platform of claim 20 in which the platform has a center line  
2 and the rails are symmetrically arranged with respect to the centerline of the platform.

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1           27.    A launcher platform comprising:  
2                   a support structure; and  
3                   a plurality of rails on each side of the support structure, at least  
4   one rail on each side elevated above the other rails to accommodate additional missiles  
5   and different type missiles.

1           28.    The launcher platform of claim 27 in which there are N rails total where  
2   N is an even number, N/2 rails on each side of the support structure, and the minority of  
3   the rails on each side are elevated.

1           29.    The launcher platform of claim 27 in which at least one rail is offset  
2   from the other rail or rails.

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1           30.     A launcher platform comprising:  
2                         a support structure; and  
3                         a plurality of rails on each side of the support structure, at least  
4     one rail on each side offset rearwardly from the other rail or rails to accommodate  
5     additional missiles and different type missiles.

1           31.     The launcher platform of claim 30 in which at least one rail is elevated  
2     above the other rail or rails.

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